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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/976,679	10/12/2001	Scott A. McGill	PERCUS.141A	1188

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EXAMINER

BAXTER, JESSICA R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3731

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2003

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/976,679

Applicant(s)

MCGILL ET AL.

Examiner

Jessica R Baxter

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 2/20/2002 04/02/2002, 06/24/03, 10/14/2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3, 5, 6, 10-16, 20, 22, 23, 25 and 26 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 7-9, 17-19, 21 and 24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5, 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of species 1 in Paper No. 10 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the claims are generic to several distinct species. This is not found persuasive because the species are still considered different inventions and thus are examined separately.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 17-19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,544,231 to Palmer et al.

Regarding claim 1, Palmer discloses a medical device, comprising: an elongate tubular body having a proximal end and a distal end and a lumen extending therethrough (tubular member 102); an inner wire within the lumen of the elongate tubular body having a proximal end extending proximal to the proximal end of the elongate tubular body and a distal end (needle 16 shaft 16), the inner wire being moveable relative to the elongate tubular body (FIGS. 3-5); an expandable member connected to the distal end of the elongate tubular body (basket 116); and a coil extending over the inner wire at a proximal end thereof

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(coil 14), the coil being attached to the proximal end of the elongate tubular body (Column 7 line 58-Column 8 line 25).

Regarding claims 2 and 17, Palmer discloses a proximal hypotube (tube 12) connected to a proximal end of the coil, wherein the inner wire extends through the proximal hypotube.

Regarding claims 7 and 18, Palmer discloses that the expandable member is an occlusive device (basket 116) having a proximal end connected to the tubular body and a distal end connected to the inner wire (FIG. 3), wherein relative movement of the inner wire with respect to the tubular body causes the occlusive device to move from a nonexpanded configuration to an expanded configuration (FIGS. 3-5).

Regarding claim 8, Palmer discloses that the coil is compressed when the occlusive device is in a nonexpanded configuration (Column 5 line 63-Column 6 line 11).

Regarding claim 19, Palmer discloses that when the occlusive device is in its expanded configuration, a gap is defined between the tubular body and the proximal hypotube (FIG. 4).

Regarding claim 21, Palmer discloses a coil (coil 14) between the proximal hypotube and the tubular body.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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5. Claims 9 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Palmer et al. '231 in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,878,898 to Griffin et al.

Palmer discloses the claimed invention except for the expandable member being a balloon. Palmer teaches that his device may be used to insert a device to desired penetration depth or reference depth (Column 1 lines 28-40). Griffin teaches that a balloon catheter may be provided with a marking to indicate the penetration depth of the instrument (Column 4 line 55-Column 5 line 7). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the marker device (10) of Palmer with the balloon of Griffin since it is known in the art to provide balloon catheters with depth markers.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 4 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 5,776,080 to Thome et al.

U.S. Patent No. 6,500,185 to Mathews et al.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jessica R Baxter whose telephone number is 703-305-4069. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM - 5:00PM.


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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Milano can be reached on 703-308-2496. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

Jessica R Baxter
Examiner
Art Unit 3731

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jrb


MICHAEL J. MILANO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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